

SECRET/

*Transition file/white House*

Approved For Release 2005/06/06 : CIA-RDP79M00467A003100120004-1

NO # 1849-26

Executive Registry

76-5591/4

22 November 1976

## MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Briefing of the President-Elect, 19 November 1976

1. The President-elect was briefed in Plains on 19 November from 1300 to approximately 1900. Also present were the Vice President-elect, Mr. Eizenstat and Mr. Aaron. The briefing team consisted of the DCI, the DDCI, [redacted] Mr. Parmenter, [redacted] and myself.

2. The DCI met privately with Governor Carter and Senator Mondale for about 45 minutes before the main briefing began. That briefing opened with Admiral Murphy on Community matters, in which he emphasized the CFI, the national intelligence budget, and the imagery satellite collection systems. Mr. Knoche then followed with a briefing on the Agency, emphasizing in his turn budget and personnel trends, OAG procedures and covert action, collection against hard targets, advanced technology in agent gear, and the new emphasis on multi-disciplinary analysis.

3. We then moved to substantive topics, following an agenda worked out with Eizenstat while the private session was in progress. [redacted] led off on the question of OPEC price increases and on broader petroleum supply matters, including the new find in Mexico. Governor Carter noted that he had received a phone call from Lopez Portillo in which the latter had stated his desire for an extraordinarily close working relationship with the United States.

4. Mr. Parmenter was next up, and briefed on Lebanon and on a variety of larger Arab-Israeli questions. He then spoke briefly about the Horn of Africa, noting the problems arising from the coming independence of the FTAI. He next moved to the Rhodesian problem, which led to a series of questions having to do with [redacted]. Governor Carter appeared to be under the impression [redacted]

Approved For Release 2005/06/06 : CIA-RDP79M00467A003100120004-1

SECRET/

*Transition file/white House*

Approved For Release 2005/06/06 : CIA-RDP79M00467A003100120004-1

5. Following Mr. Parmenter's briefing I gave a series of short briefings along the general lines we had prepared. I opened with the Polish situation, noting that Soviet intervention was quite unlikely, but that there was at least a possibility that such a circumstance might arise between now and Inauguration. I then moved to the Soviet topics, speaking first on the Soviet view of the Carter administration.

[REDACTED] The statement of Soviet interest in SALT precipitated extended discussion. He then asked me whether I thought it would be in the US interest to accept the proposal he had made during the campaign. After some hesitation, I said I thought it would, providing that the verification problem could be solved. Governor Carter said he had put the same question to Jim Schlesinger, Schlesinger had thought for two minutes before replying, and had then given the same answer. Governor Carter then asked a question to the effect that: Would the Soviets seriously be willing to buy such a proposal?

6. This gave me an opportunity to move into my next topic, the debate now underway on Soviet objectives. Here I followed quite closely the full briefing that had been prepared and ended by noting that NIE 11-4 was underway and would be available for his administration. This section of the briefing was followed with intense interest and Governor Carter said that he would very much like to see the estimate.

8. I then moved on to the briefings on Soviet strategic forces and on SALT compliance. I hit all the major points in the strategic programs briefing except the passage on the Backfire. As time was

Approved For Release 2005/06/06 : CIA-RDP79M00467A003100120004-1

running out, I foreshortened the strategic section a good deal. For the same reason, I limited the compliance briefing to a statement that the Soviets were in general compliance on dismantling. I showed him the graphic prepared on this, and noted that about May 1978 at their present pace the Soviets would have to begin scrapping Y-class submarines if the interim agreement were to be extended. I said no new compliance issues had arisen. Governor Carter asked whether the Soviets had ever lied to us in the SSC on compliance matters. I said that to my knowledge they had not, but that he probably should put the question to Dr. Kissinger because of his many private exchanges with the Soviets on these topics.

9. I then made the main points of the briefings on Sino-Soviet relations, Panama and Greece-Turkey. Mr. McDonald closed with a short discussion of

10. Following the briefing I raised with Governor Carter the question of providing the PDB to him in Plains. He expressed his interest in accepting President Ford's offer and noted that the sample copy that had been shown him by the Director looked very useful to him. Overriding David Aaron's objections, he agreed to our stationing a briefing officer in Plains. I am to make arrangements for this with Gregg Schneiders.

11. The general tone of the entire session was extremely friendly and as intense as the previous ones. There were many questions, both from the President-elect and from the others present. There was no indication of a hostile attitude toward collection operations or toward covert action. Schneiders told me today that they, too, thought it had been a successful session.



Richard Lehman  
Deputy to the DCI for National Intelligence

cc: DCI  
DDCI  
D/DCI/IC

Approved For Release 2005/06/06 : CIA-RDP79M00467A003100120004-1